

RE: : Help with extracting text

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Perl/perl.beginners/2003-12/1568.html>

From: Jim Halkyard (jim.halkyard_at_nectech.co.uk)

Date: 12/31/03

To: "'William Martell'" <willmartell@yahoo.com>, beginners@perl.org, Zary Necheva <znecheva@mail.ru>
Date: Wed, 31 Dec 2003 15:07:38 -0000

Hi Will,

Just a couple of comments on the script you sent.

This is your script with some minor changes.

```
$infile = "zary_necheva_data.txt";  
  
open(INFILE, $infile) or die "Death $!";  
  
while( $line = <INFILE> ){  
  
    $lpos = index($line,"|");  
  
    # Your line will capture the first five chars, but in the sample data 2 of  
    the rows had 6 chars before the first . or space and were truncated  
    # $first = substr($line, 0, 5); # Will's line  
  
    # I suggest using the value of $lpos you captured above  
    $first = substr($line, 0, $lpos); # My line  
  
    # This will replace one or more dots with nothing within the substring, not  
    quite what was requested  
    # $first =~ s/\.+//; # Will's line  
  
    # This will replace everything after the first dot or space in the substring  
    with nothing  
    $first =~ s/[.\s].*//; # My line  
  
    $last = substr($line, $lpos);  
  
    print $first.$last;  
  
}
```

You can also replace the while loop with

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```
while(<INFILE>)  
s/^(.*?)[\s].*?(\|.*)$/$1$2/  
print;  
}
```

I am sure there are many other ways of doing this, many of them probably shorter, quicker code, but both these appear to work exactly as requested.

Cheers,

Jim

-----Original Message-----

From: William Martell [mailto:willmartell@yahoo.com]

Sent: 31 December 2003 14:33

To: beginners@perl.org; Zary Necheva

Subject: RE:: Help with extracting text

Hi Zary,

I have attached a sample file with the data you offered and a perl script which can be copied and pasted into the command line on win32.

Let me know if you have any problems.

HTH,
Will Martell
Dallas Texas